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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,217	01/14/2004	Robbert van Vossen	57.0554 US NP	3795

7590

03/29/2006

Intellectual Property Law Department  
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EXAMINER

HUGHES, SCOTT A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3663

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action  
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/757,217

Applicant(s)

VOSSEN ET AL.

Examiner

Scott A. Hughes

Art Unit

3663

**--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

THE REPLY FILED 06 March 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

**AMENDMENTS**

3. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because  
(a) ☒ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);  
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).  
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☒ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: 12.  
Claim(s) rejected: 1-11, 13-16.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

**AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE**

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).  
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).  
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER**

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.  
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
13. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

JACK KEITH

**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

Continuation of 3. NOTE: The amendment to claim 16 would require further search and consideration to determine whether it is patentable over the prior art, and therefore this amendment will not be entered..

Continuation of 11. : The applicant's arguments that Trumpert in view of Zhu or Silawongstat does not read on the claims because using a P-SV estimated propagator is not disclosed or taught by the references are not persuasive. The Trumpert reference teaches estimating a P-SH wave propagator and inverting it to gain information about the near surface. Trumpert further acknowledges that P-SV type waves are present with the P-SH waves, but states that only the P-SH case is treated in that paper. Therefore, there is reason to believe that a similar inversion of the other data Trumpert states is available, namely the P-SV waves, would give further information about the near-surface. The Zhu and Silawongstat references were used to show that P-SV type propagators are known in the art. These two references both show how to estimate a P-SV propagator. The introduction, examples, and conclusion in Zhu teach using the propagator with real data. Therefore, the propagator can be estimated using real seismic data. Silawongstat teaches using simulated data to model the subsurface and to estimate the propagators. Since the simulated data would be mathematically the same as real data, the P-SV propagator taught could be found with real data also. The earth models taught in Zhu and Silawongstat could be input with parameters from real data sets, and therefore they can produce P-SV propagators for real data. Since Trumpert discloses that the inversion of the P-SH propagator gives information about the near surface, and since Trumpert discloses that P-SV waves are also present in the data, it would have been obvious to try to gain the information from the P-SV waves as well. Trumpert teaches the case for the P-SH propagator, and since Zhu and Silawongstat teach P-SV propagators, it would have been obvious to create those propagators from the P-SV data in order to obtain more information about the subsurface. Amended claim 16, which broadens the scope of the allowable subject matter indicated in claim 12, is not entered and therefore arguments for that claim are not addressed.